



Preparing for the Days of Awe

The Hebrew month of Elul serves as a time of preparation for the Days of Awe. This period is designed for introspection, a time to review the past year and prepare for your personal repentance. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has a number of programs, classes and services this September to enhance your spiritual and psychological journey:

- **Tikkun HaNefesh: Repairing the Soul.** Taught by **Rabbi Camille Shira Angel** on Tuesday, September 4, 7:30 - 9 pm. The Days of Awe are days of renewal and rebirth. This class is an opportunity to expand your knowledge and deepen your sense of spiritual fulfillment. We will look at text, rituals, prayers and stories in order to begin our individual process of cheshbon hanefesh (taking an account of our souls). To register, please contact the program office at ext 305.
- **Selichot Service.** Selichot are a set of petitionary prayers and meditations that help us to prepare for the season of teshuvah (repentance). This year we will gather on Saturday, September 8 at 8:30 pm for Havdalah (the service marking the end of Shabbat), followed by studying and a worship service led by Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Larry Wexler.
- **Tikkun Olam / Healing the World.** The Social Action / Tikkun Olam Committee also continues a CSZ tradition, and an important Jewish mitzvah, by serving a pre-holiday lunch to the Jewish seniors at the Tenderloin Senior Center on Friday, September 14 at 1 pm. Meet at the North of Market Senior Center, 333 Turk St., second floor. To RSVP, contact Allan Berenstein at 415/863-8033 or CSZ Program Director Dahlia Gross at ext. 305.
- **Kever Avot u'imahot: Annual Cemetery Visit.** An important custom dur-

ing this month is to visit the graves of our loved ones, in order to remember their lives and to gain inspiration for our own life. As in past years, the Cemetery Committee will host a service and brunch at the Sha'ar Zahav section of Hills of Eternity on Sunday, September 16 at 10 am. For directions or more information, contact the CSZ office at 415/861-6932.

- **Tashlich.** On the first afternoon of Rosh Hashanah, it is customary to go to a flowing body of water and symbolically cast our sins away by throwing bread crumbs into the water. Sha'ar Zahav's Tashlich service will begin approximately one hour after services have ended on the afternoon of Tuesday, September 18 (approximately 1:30 pm). Feel free to change into casual clothes, grab a picnic lunch and meet us by the water at the east end of Crissy Field. This year's service will be led by Bill Jones and Dev Felder Noily.

High Holidays 5762

The "production" of High Holiday services requires an enormous amount of volunteer time and effort. If you can help out for an hour or two, you will enhance everyone's experience at the holidays and begin the year with a mitzvah. Please consider donating a little time to help with ushering, oneg, break fast or child care. Please contact Lea Salem in the CSZ office at 415/861-6932 x308.

Monday, September 17
Erev Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, September 18
First Day Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 19
Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 26
Kol Nidre

Thursday, September 27
Yom Kippur

La'atid Sponsors Last Event of the Year

Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner
September 17, 5:30-7 pm

La'atid, Sha'ar Zahav's havurah for younger folks, is sponsoring its first event of the year on the last day of the year. To ensure inscription in the Book of Life we begin with one of our most popular events: a pre-High Holiday

dinner hosted in a private home a short walk from Herbst Theatre. Why eat falafel on the run when you can make new friends and start the holidays off right?

Casual buffet kosher style, \$10.

RSVP for location, 415/861-6932 ext. 305 or geoff@redcottage.com.

Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. When there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

A Time for Boundaries, Transcendence



Rabbi Angel

Because I've now been in San Francisco a calendar year, my insurance policy that covered damages incurred in the move is about to expire. I have just a few weeks left in which I can file a claim and expect remuneration. According to the small print, the gates remain open and then close - relieving the moving company of all responsibility to make amends. Boundaries are important and so are thresholds.

Rosh Hashanah, too, is about boundaries and thresholds. It wasn't always that way. The name itself does not appear in the Bible. The festival that we will soon observe is not even identified there as the beginning of a new year, nor does it take place on the first day of the first month of the year.

The first month of the biblical year is the spring month of Nisan, the Passover month, now our seventh month. Only later did rabbinic chronology establish that Tishrei was to be the first month of the year and that the festival we celebrate on the first day of that month was to be called Rosh Hashanah, one of four festivals with this name listed in the Mishnah (Rosh HaShanah 1:1).

Much of religion is about boundaries and thresholds. Judaism is obsessed with establishing boundaries - in time, space, and personal status and relationships, the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and between the Jewish community and other communities. Boundaries structure our life experience. They teach us who we are and where we are, what we stand for, where we belong and what the present moment means. Without boundaries, life would be an undifferentiated gray. Imagine a living space without walls; a city without parks; time without days, weeks, years, birthdays, anniversaries, holidays.

Thresholds make us aware of the boundaries. Religious rituals are almost invariably located at thresholds of one kind or another. That's why we place a

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Welcome Dinner

"Torah feeds the soul. Then again, chocolate's a pretty close second."

Joe Hample,

Ritual and Membership Committees

Join the Keshet (Connection) and Membership Committees for a special edition of the "Welcome Dinner" on Friday, September 7, at 6 pm at CSZ. This informal gathering is for prospective members, new members and seasoned members to get to know one another in a more informal and relaxed setting. The cost of the dinner is \$10. As is our minhag (custom), no one is turned away for lack of funds.

"Why is this dinner so special?" you might ask.

Well, first, Joe Hample and Michael Sarid will be our special guests. They will

be hosting a little study session and discussion to help make Sha'ar Zahav High Holiday Services more user-friendly. Joe will focus on the ritual part of services; Michael will help familiarize us with some of the High Holiday melodies.

Second, since we will be catering the event at the synagogue and want to make sure there is enough food, you must RSVP by Monday, September 3 to Marc Wernick (415/928-7883; mhwnick@aol.com).

Third, please note, because of the High Holiday schedule this year, we will not be holding the regular third Friday Night "Welcome Dinner."

So bring your questions and your sweet tooth. We will be serving the best chocolate cake for dessert.

Todah Rabbah from Rabbi Angel

A heartfelt thank you to Allan Berenstein, Laura Lowe, Nicole Bloom and Liz Schaffer.

For the past five years, Allan and Laura have headed the CSZ Social Action Committee, working tirelessly and being committed to the work of tikkun olam. Through the amazing organizational energy and dedication of Allan and Laura, CSZ has collected toiletries for various shelters, provided lunch and company for seniors, painted and repaired houses for those who were unable to do so themselves, delivered and prepared meals for Project Open Hand clients and inspired our congregation time and time again to engage in the mitzvah of social action. While Allan and Laura are moving on from their roles as Social Action co-chairs, they will continue to make Sha'ar Zahav - and the world - a better place. We are looking forward to supporting AJ Turpen in his capacity as co-chair.

Nicole Bloom has been chair of the Ritual Committee for the past two years. She has worked diligently with the Siddur Committee, members of the

congregation and me to uphold Sha'ar Zahav's high standards of ritual observance. Nicole has contributed endless hours to CSZ and the Ritual Committee, and will continue to be an important part of our community in her new capacity as chair of Bikkur Cholim, beginning after the High Holidays.

Liz Schaffer has spent the past two years as chair of the Children's Education Board. Liz has worked with two educators and helped Kadimah grow and flourish. The professionalism and knowledge that accompanied Liz through her term were invaluable. We look forward to the continued growth and expansion of our children's education programs at Sha'ar Zahav under the leadership of Ruthy Talansky.

It is individuals like Allan, Laura, Nicole and Liz who continue to make Sha'ar Zahav the amazing and fabulous place that it is. Thank you for all your hard work.

Hazak Hazak U'nitchazek! May you blossom in strength again and again in years to come.

Yizkor Elohim

Barry Siegel

February 17, 1931 - June 15, 2001

Editor's Note:

This is an abbreviated version of the drash given by Lisa Katz at the Installation Service for the new Board officers.

I was raised in an observant Reform Jewish home in Chicago, Los Angeles and a variety of other places. My parents always belonged to a synagogue. We lit candles and made Shabbat on a weekly basis. My brother and I attended religious school on Sundays, and the whole family attended High Holiday services, but we almost never went to shul for Shabbat services.

I dropped out of Hebrew school after one year, primarily because of the long bus ride from my elementary school to the synagogue, and because Hebrew school conflicted with Camp Fire Girls. As a result I did not have a Bat Mitzvah when I was 13. But when I was 15, I went to Israel on a Bureau of Jewish Education summer Ulpan and decided to have my Bat Mitzvah then (I thought I was very old).

I dropped out of college after one year and came out as a lesbian. I was living in the Davis Jewish Co-op at the time. A year later I went back to UC Davis, at least in part so that I could be president of the Gay Students' Union. In the fall of 1978, I came to San Francisco with an American Studies class, and stumbled across a group of Gay Jews holding Shabbat services in the basement of Glide Church. These were early days of Sha'ar Zahav. A few weeks later I dropped out of college again, this time to run the Sacramento office on the "No on 6" Campaign. We successfully defeated a statewide initiative that would have prohibited gay men and lesbians from being public school teachers.

When I returned to college in 1979, I helped to organize a Lesbian Feminist Torah study group. To this day, I consider the members of that group part of my family, even though I have not seen many of them for many years.

I was recently talking to a fairly active member of our congregation, and she was telling me that she had no idea how people become leaders at Congre

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Yom Kippur - Facing Fate, Averting Suffering

by Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee

"On Rosh Hashanah it is written, and on Yom Kippur it is sealed," our liturgy tells us, "who shall live and who shall die." At the year's turning, we ritually turn to God, confessing our failures and asking to be forgiven and chosen for life. During the new year's excitement, and then ten days later, throughout the long day of reflection, the medieval Hebrew liturgy, borne on its ancient, somber melody, stirs our senses and emotions. But perhaps this stirring distracts us from the meanings of the prayers.

Many Jews think that the machzor promises that our virtue, if sufficient, will be rewarded with another year of life, or else our sins will condemn us. Yet, as CSZ member Lisa Ochs pointed out in her High Holiday sermon last year, the moral of the *U'Netaneh Tokef* is more subtle: God decides, for no reason that we can understand, who shall be born and who shall die, whose death shall be timely and whose premature, whose by crime and whose by justice, whose by sickness and whose by war, who shall be settled and who homeless, who rich and who poor, whose fortunes shall rise and whose shall fall. Neither in liturgy nor in life can we reliably discern the logic of these events.

The prayer's aim is not to encourage us to barter good deeds for long life, but to help us think about how to face whatever the next year may hold. The future is always uncertain, yet events, once unfolded, often seem to have been predestined, the fate decreed for us. The machzor tells us how to meet this fate: "*Teshuvah, u'tefilah, u'tzedakah ma'avirin et roah ha'g'zera.*" Our Sha'ar Zahav machzor translates this sentence, "But Repentance, Prayer and Charity avert the severe decree."

This common translation masks many subtleties. As Rabbi Joel Zeff points out, in Hebrew the adjective follows the noun; if *roah* (severe) is an adjective, it should follow the noun *g'zera* (decree.) But instead it comes first. A closer translation is

"Repentance, Prayer and Charity avert the severity of the decree."

The decree is beyond our power to avert. We cannot knowingly change unknown and unknowable future events. We can develop the resources to lessen our suffering in living out that future. We can do this through *teshuvah*: turning to one another, making amends, repairing breaches in our family and community relationships, so that in the coming year none is cast out, condemned to face hardship in isolation. We can do it through prayer: through developing our self-insight and learning to build on the best in us while restraining the worst. We can do it through *tzedakah*, strengthening the weakest links of the social world on which we all depend.

These acts can *ma'avirin* (cause to pass) the bitterness of fate. The medieval liturgist knew that this is the same verb that the siddur uses to describe the Israelites' miraculous escape from the Egyptian army at the Red Sea. God "caused them to pass" between the walls of the sea. The language underlines the point. The practices of amends, spiritual self-assessment and sharing resources will help us to pass through our frightening and narrow places.

Events of the coming year may reduce us to feeling desolate helplessness. In the *Avinu Malkeinu*, we confess in advance our anticipated feelings of emptiness, saying, "*ein banu maasim,*" there are in us no deeds. Then we ask for the help we will need in some time to come, "*Asei imanu tzedakah v'chesed v'hoshieinu.*" Our machzor translates this, "Deal with us with charity and lovingkindness and help us."

Each translation is only one of many. The word "*asei*" echoes "*ma'asim,*" deeds, which echoes "*ma'aseh bereishit,*" the work of creation. We, unable to act, unable even to think how to act, ask for God's help in restoring our creative powers.

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Bar Mitzvah

Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz

by Karen Schiller



Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz, who celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at CSZ on Saturday, August 25, is an articulate, thoughtful and caring individual, as I learned in a conversation I had with him prior to his Bar Mitzvah.

Josh, son of Stacey Shuster and Joan Lefkowitz and brother of Mara, will be attending Live Oak Middle School this year. His favorite subjects are math and science, and he plans to be a veterinarian when he grows up. "My great-grandpa, who is my role model, was a vet. He was nice and seemed to have a nice life, so I think it would be a good thing to do. I also think it would be a fun job to work with animals," Josh said.

This summer, Josh is getting a taste of what it's like to work with animals because he is taking care of the birds, fish, cats and tortoise who live at the Jewish Home for the Aged. He also spends time talking with the people who live there. He said, "I like being the person they talk to. They're by themselves a lot and it feels good for them to have someone to talk to. I know it will help me when I'm older and live somewhere like that."

Josh said he felt very well prepared for his Bar Mitzvah, and very good about it. "It's hard, but not too hard. I learned so much; learning prayers really helps you learn Hebrew." Because his Torah portion was about crime and punishment - an "eye for an eye" - he also had a chance to think and write about the death penalty.

Josh thanked his tutor, Alan Gordon, his friends Ruth and Lynn who helped him with his drash, his parents, Joan and Stacey, and sister Mara. A heartfelt Mazel Tov to Josh and his family.

DON'T FORGET!

**PLEASE DROP TOILETRY
ITEMS FOR THOSE IN NEED
INTO THE BIG RED BIN**

Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah

Children and Family Corner



My First Month Here

by Sue Bojdak

I had no idea what I was getting myself into when I became the Director of Children's and Family Education. I've met dozens of people, waded through files from years past, and even done an inventory of crayons, paint and coloring books — the life of an educator in the summer! The CSZ staff has been incredibly supportive as I learn all of the details about this job, from the names of the Education Board members to the proper height of children's tables. I'm lucky to have enough experience in Jewish education and administration, as well as my five years as a member of this synagogue to prepare me for the job. Most of all, I'm looking forward to meeting the children and families, teaching teachers and helping facilitate this synagogue's amazing educational programs.

Calling All Families: Sukkah Building

Saturday, September 29, 9:30 am

Have you ever wanted to have a Sukkah in your backyard? What if a whole group of people helped you build it? Kadimah is looking for families to host Kadimah Sukkah building at their homes. You provide the materials; we provide the labor, the teacher and the experience.

For more information about any of these programs, or to RSVP, contact:

• Sue Bojdak at educator@shaarzahav.org or call 415/861-9632 ext. 302.

Plan the Next Art Shabbaton

Calling all artists, financial wizards and general good folks! Since the days of Miriam, Jews used song, dance and artfully crafted objects to express joy, awe and spirituality. Now, here's our chance! We need your ideas to help shape our second annual celebration of the arts: the Art Shabbaton. Please contact Jeanette Nichols (510/531-4885) or Barbara Cymrot (cymwu@aol.com) for information/meeting time.

DON'T FORGET!!

**Kadimah Opening Week
begins Tues. September 11**

High Holiday Family and Children's Activities

As in previous years, there will be age-appropriate High Holiday programming, services, art activities, singing, storytelling, a visit to Torah services, and other supplemental programs for Kadimah-age children. The Kadimah family services will be led by our junior congregation and Rabbi Camille Angel. For program and service times, see your High Holiday mailing.

Baby Havurah

Saturday, September 22, 9:30 am

Songs, toys, bubbles, finger plays, and a mini-service puppet show are not to be missed by the 24-month and under set.

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, September 22, 10:30 am

Tot Shabbat is for children ages 2-5, their friends and families. We come together one Shabbat every month at 10:30 am for an age-appropriate service filled with art, storytelling, singing, prayer, and movement!

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Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

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Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

September 2001, Volume 25, Issue 1.



Adult Education Classes

A new session of exciting Adult Education classes begin this September with Rabbi Angel teaching on Tikkun HaNefesh - Repairing the Soul (see page 1 for more information). Classes at CSZ are open to everyone, from the first-time visitor to those with extensive Jewish knowledge. Below are the course descriptions for those classes beginning this fall, including the Adult B'nei Mitzvah program for those of you who are seriously considering, or are committed to, becoming bar/bat mitzvah. If you are interested in joining the Adult Education Committee, please call Dahlia Gross, Program Director, ext. 305.

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Program

Date: Orientation: September 4
Time: 6:30 pm
Taught by: Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and
 Dev Felder Noily

For members who are interested in preparing for a bar/bat mitzvah at CSZ, please contact Dahlia Gross to reserve a space at the Orientation Meeting with Dev Felder Noily. Requirements to be completed at an individual's pace are: participation in High Holiday Services and related activities; Basic Hebrew; Prayerbook Hebrew; Rabbi Angel's class on Cultivating a Daily Jewish Spiritual Practice; Ten Essential of Judaism course; weekly meetings with the Adult B'nei Mitzvah facilitator (Dev Felder Noily); instruction on developing a service, trope, d'var torah and other ritual activity; attendance at Shabbat Services and Torah study, and meetings with Rabbi Angel.

The Poetry of Yehuda Amichai

Date: Tuesdays, October 16 and 23
Time: 7-9 pm
Tuition: \$30/non-members; \$20/members of CSZ or Lehrhaus
Taught by: Dan Bellm
Register: Contact Lehrhaus (www.lehrhaus.org or 510/845-6420).

This course will focus on one of the 20th century's greatest writers, the Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai. The sessions will explore the multi-layered eloquence of Amichai's work, particularly his final book, *Open Closed Open*, examining its expressive power, its depth of Jewish learning, and its political incisiveness about Israel and the world today. Knowledge of modern Hebrew is not required, since excellent translations of Amichai's work are available in English.

Cultivating an Authentic Jewish Spiritual Practice

Date: Tues. Oct. 30, Tues. Nov. 6, Sat. Nov. 10,
 Tues. Nov. 13 and Tues. Nov. 20
Time: 7-8:30 pm, Saturday all day
Tuition: \$55/non-members;
 \$40/members of Lehrhaus
 Free/members of CSZ
Taught by: Rabbi Camille Shira Angel
Sponsored by: CSZ and Lehrhaus

Take a guided tour of the essentials of Jewish practice relating to prayer and study with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel. Topics will include: using Shachrit and Maariv (prayer services) to cultivate the practice of gratitude; preparing for prayer: tefillin and other rituals for the body; learning Torah utilizing age-old principles of study in chevruta (study partners); meditation and niggunim (melodies). The course will include a Shabbat morning service with tefillin, an oneg (Shabbat celebration) and brown bag lunch, and a Shabbaton on enriching our spiritual practice on November 10.

gation Sha'ar Zahav. So, that is what I really want to talk to you about, because it should not be a mystery.

The biggest reason I am here now, is that I was asked, and I did not say no. So the bigger question is, who did the asking. (And why didn't I say no?)

I joined CSZ in 1985, when I moved to San Francisco to start law school. Before that, I had been peripherally involved with the congregation while living in Sacramento, and for a brief time participated in a satellite Congregation Sha'ar Zahav there.

As a law student, I had little time to do anything but occasionally attend services. But every time I walked through the doors at our old Danvers Street location, I had the feeling that I was coming home. Even though I did not know anyone there, and I had never been there before, this was a place where I could integrate both my Jewish and lesbian identities easily.

I became active with the Social Action Committee at a time when our major focus was working for asylum for Salvadoran refugees. I eventually volunteered to be co-chair of that committee. As Social Action co-chair, I viewed the Va'ad with a great deal of suspicion. I really had no idea how it operated. The Va'ad was the "in-group," and I still felt myself to be an outsider.

Shortly after that I was asked to serve on the Va'ad, and I did not say no. Somehow, even as a member of the Va'ad, I did not feel I was part of the "in-group."

During my first term on the Va'ad (it was either in 1990 or 1991), Sha'ar Zahav implemented our first mandatory dues policy. Before that membership dues here had been voluntary. Sha'ar Zahav has always had a fair share dues structure. The original proposal, was that all members be required to pay 1% of their income, with a \$200 minimum. I opposed the minimum because it did not seem right that people with the least ability to pay should be forced to pay a larger share of their income. When my opposition to the proposal as a member of the Va'ad failed, I

brought an alternative proposal to the congregational meeting. My alternative passed. I still did not feel I was part of the "in group."

I was appointed to the first dues committee. We worked very hard to set up guidelines that were "SAFE": Systematic, Across the board, Fair and Equitable. We provided dues relief to many congregants. We asked a few congregants to pay more in dues. I still did not feel I was part of the "in group."

Even when I was elected vice president of the congregation in 1992 or '93, I still did not feel that I was part of the "in group." However, what I started to realize was that my feeling of being an outsider had more to do with me than with anything that anyone else was doing to exclude me. To any outside observer, I certainly was part of the "in group."

Over the years I have volunteered at Chanukah parties and acted in Purim spiels. I have served on the Children's Education Board and organized High Holiday child care. I have been part of the minority and part of the majority on a variety of synagogue policy matters. But I never left anyone with any doubt where I stood. I have believed that this is my congregation, whether or not I felt I was part of the "in group." And I have acted on that feeling. By doing so I have become part of our congregation's leadership.

When I was asked to serve as president of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, I did not say no.

We are a congregation of individuals who find our spiritual sustenance in this unique Jewish congregation. We come together for worship and community. We share a set of common values derived from our Jewish heritage, as well as our feminist and egalitarian world outlook. There really is no "in group" here. Anyone who volunteers to do anything in this congregation is truly part of the "in group."

You can volunteer to help feed people in a homeless shelter or to help set financial policy, to teach our children or to help find solutions to our problem of inadequate parking. All of these activities and many more are integral to the running of this congregation. All are needed and all are valued.

While our congregation is growing and many more responsibilities are taken on by our phenomenally dedicated and talented staff, we are still a lay-led congregation which will not work unless each and every one of you finds your own unique way of contributing your time, and talents and dollars.

When you see a need, fill it. When someone calls you and asks you to volunteer, don't say no. And you too, will be part of the leadership of this congregation.

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Many beautiful new items just arrived !

mezuzah on the threshold that separates our private spaces from the public space. A mezuzah reminds us that we are crossing a boundary, leaving one structure behind and entering a new one. Judaism is filled with mezuzot, real ones and metaphorical ones: the Sabbath is a mezuzah, so are the life cycle events, the dietary laws and the laws regarding personal status, such as marriage, divorce and conversion. So are the festivals of the Jewish year. And so, pre-eminently, is Rosh Hashanah.

Rosh Hashanah makes us aware of the fact that we are leaving one structure and entering a new one, leaving behind one year and beginning a new one. A characteristic blessing that Jews use on Rosh Hashanah captures this threshold quality. Its Hebrew rhyme, rhythm and alliteration cannot be captured in translation, but its message is clear: "May a year with its curses end. May a year with its blessings begin." Rosh Hashanah is about endings and beginnings.

A classmate once suggested that a threshold ritual is a way of "saying goodbye and saying hello." We enter our sanctuary on this day with the sense that something has ended and something is about to begin. We put the past behind us and anticipate the future, with renewed hope and optimism. We say goodbye to the old and hello to the new.

Our ritual depends on words spoken from the heart. The Torah teaches us that the world was created with words. "God said, 'Let there be light and there was light.'" Words spoken can create; words uttered can transform. At times, our words can rupture trust and trans-

gress boundaries. Sometimes we intend for them to be hurtful; sometimes we don't.

It is with the hope of renewing trust that I reflect back to the beginning of last year, when words were spoken that caused offense. Last year on Erev Rosh Hashanah, during our fundraising appeal, words and gestures were used which some people found shocking and embarrassing and which deflated and vulgarized the elevated sense of the holy days. Not only was the intent of the appeal itself undermined, but so too, the very sanctity of the Yamim Nora'im - the Days of Awe. In the spirit of teshuvah, we take this opportunity to offer both apology and forgiveness for words spoken that caused hurt and remorse.

We would do well to seek this sort of healing and repair not only in our public sacred spaces but in our private, personal lives as well. Let us use this season of repentance to make a careful accounting of where we've been and where we hope yet to go. May our new year preparations help move us in a most meaningful direction. May we feel moved, transformed, as we cross the threshold that takes us into this coming year, 5762. May it be a year of health and blessing for all of us.

Before concluding my column this month, I want to thank you and God for a wondrous and awesome 5761. Karen and I have been continually impressed and inspired by this community, wherein everyone seems to care about the values that guide our actions and bring repair to the world. Together we wish you a happy, sweet, new year.

GOT REBATE?

Have you received the tax rebate promised by President Bush in his recent tax cut legislation? If so, the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center suggests that you join with other Reform Jews around the country and use your rebate dollars to help support health care, housing, education or human services non-profits whose federal grants were eliminated or reduced in the Republican budget enacted earlier this year. The RAC, which strenuously opposed the tax cut, hopes that together we can make a powerful statement. The rebate is money we didn't expect to see again, and we've budgeted to live without it, so it's appropriate that we use it to perform an important mitzvah. If you need information or suggestions about local charities that need your support at this critical time, please contact Rabbi Angel through the synagogue office. To learn more about the Reform Movement's work on this and other social justice issues, please visit the RAC website at www.rac.org.

Help Beautify CSZ!

The Fine Arts Advisory Committee works under the direction of the President and is responsible for enhancing the decor of the synagogue. Please contact Barbara Cymrot (415/621-5350 or cymwu@aol.com) if you'd like to be part of this exciting venture.

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SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
<div>East Bay Services</div> <div>Friday, September 21, 8:15 pm</div> <div>Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott</div> <div>4042 Maple Ave., Oakland</div> <div>510/530-4673</div>				<div>OCTOBER DEADLINE</div> <div>ARTICLES</div> <div>Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file to kschiller@igc.org. No late submissions will be accepted.</div>			
2	14 Elul	3	Labor Day 15 Elul	4	16 Elul	5	
• 4-6 pm - Gay Gezunt High Holiday Reheasal		OFFICE CLOSED		• 6 ³⁰ pm - Adult B'nei Mitzvah Orientation • 7 ³⁰ -9 pm - Tikkun HaNefesh Class with Rabbi Angel		• 7 pm - JGF Newsletter Editing	
9	21 Elul	10	22 Elul	11	23 Elul	12	
• 4 pm - Healing Service • 7 pm - Newsletter Layout meeting • 6 ³⁰ -8 ³⁰ pm - Gay Gezunt High Holiday Reheasal				• 4-6 pm - East Bay Kadimah starts		• 4-6 pm - Mid-week Kadimah starts • 7 pm - High Holiday Usher Training	
16	28 Elul	17	Erev Rosh Hashanah 29 Elul	18	Rosh Hashanah 1 Tishrei	19	Rosh Hashanah
• 10 am - Kevor Avot - Cemetery Visit		• 5 ³⁰ pm - La'atid Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner • 6 ⁵⁵ pm - Candle Lighting • 7 ³⁰ pm - Services at Herbst Theater OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON		• 9 ³⁰ am - Services at Herbst Theater OFFICE CLOSED		• 9 ³⁰ am - Services at Herbst Theater OFFICE CLOSED — NO KADIMAH	
23	6 Tishrei	24	7 Tishrei	25	8 Tishrei	26	Kol Nidre
		• 7 pm - I/T Committee		• 6 ³⁰ pm - Israel Havurah NO KADIMAH		• 7 ³⁰ pm - Kol Nidre at Herbst Theater OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON	
30	13 Tishrei						



Shanah Tovah!

May we all have a happy, healthy new year.

Classifieds

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Please note that dates, times and locations sometimes get changed after the *Forward* is published. Call the office if you need updated information.

THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SHABBAT	
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, AT 5 PM				1	Shabbat Ki Tetze 13 Elul
ADVERTISING				• 9 am - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Ora Prochovnick	
email to: To place a display ad, contact Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.					
17 Elul	6 18 Elul	7 19 Elul	8 20 Elul	Shabbat Ki Tavo	
	• 6 pm - Buildings and Grounds Committee	• 6 pm - Welcome Dinner at CSZ • 7 ¹² pm - Candle Lighting • 7 ³⁰ pm - Shofar Practice • 8 ¹⁵ pm - Shabbat Services led by Howard Steiermann and Karen Segal	• 9 am - Torah Study • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers • 8 ³⁰ pm - Selichot Class and Service with Rabbi Angel and Larry Wexler		
24 Elul	13 25 Elul	14 26 Elul	15 27 Elul	Shabbat Nitzavim	
ah	• 6 ³⁰ pm - Va'ad Meeting	• 1 pm - Social Action Tenderloin Lunch • 7 ⁰¹ pm - Candle Lighting • 7 ³⁰ pm - Shofar Practice • 8 ¹⁵ pm - Shabbat Services led by Lyssa Friedman	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9 ³⁰ am - Kadimah Opening Day • 9 ³⁰ am - Ga'avah Family Program • 10 am - Shabbat Services		
Tishrei	20 3 Tishrei	21 4 Tishrei	22 5 Tishrei	Shabbat Vayelech Shuva	
		• 6 ⁵⁰ pm - Candle Lighting • 8 ¹⁵ pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel, Daniel Chesir and Marsha Attie	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9 ³⁰ am - Kadimah • 9 ³⁰ am - Baby Havurah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel • 10 ³⁰ am - Tot Shabbat		
9 Tishrei	27 Yom Kippur 10 Tishrei	28 11 Tishrei	29 12 Tishrei	Shabbat Ha'azinu	
	• 9 ³⁰ am - Services at Herbst Theater • 5 ⁴⁵ am - Yizkor • 6 ³⁰ am - Neilah OFFICE CLOSED	• 6 ³⁹ pm - Candle Lighting • 8 ¹⁵ pm - Shabbat Services led by Paul Cohen OFFICE OPEN 12 - 3	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9 ³⁰ am - Kadimah Family Sukkah building • 10 am - Shabbat Services		

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 HIV/AIDS, substance use,
 mood disorder, dot-com angst.
 Jody Reiss, LCSW (#LCS15289),
 415/401-9482.

Yom Kippur

continued from page 3

The most usual meaning of "imanu" is "with us." "Tzedakah" means literally "righteousness," a concept that includes sharing resources, but embraces far more. "Asei imanu tzedakah v'chesed, v'hoshieinu" can also mean "Create with us righteousness and kindness, and help us."

This is the help that we can honestly ask from God, and perhaps also the help God needs from us. The qualities we ask for are among those that enter the world only through human beings. They constitute the help we will need as individuals and as communities in the coming year and throughout our lives.

CSZ Gets New Voicemail System

We have a new voicemail system in the CSZ office. This system will enable us to have a greater number of voicemail boxes so that each staff member, including religious school teachers, can have her own mailbox. It is also more efficient for transferring calls.

To reach any staff member please dial the main synagogue number 415/861-6932 and press 1 for a directory of staff extensions. For your convenience, those extensions that have already been set up are listed below.

Rabbi Camille Angel x301

Lea Salem x308

Dahlia Gross x305

Sue Bojdak x302

Melanie Kushnir x304

Megan Saperstein x373

You can still try to reach the Program and Education offices on their direct lines; however, if those lines are in use, you will get a busy signal and will not get put into the voicemail system. In order to access the voicemail system you will have to go through the main number. We hope that the introduction of this system will make communicating with synagogue staff members easier and more convenient for everyone.

Synagogue Information

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street
415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)
Programming office, 415/575-4961
Education office, 415/575-4962
office@shaarzahav.org (email)
http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

CSZ Staff:

Rabbi, Camille Shira Angel (x 301)
- rabbiangel@shaarzahav.org
Administrator, Lea Salem (x 308)
- lsalem@shaarzahav.org
Program Director, Dahlia Gross (x 305)
- cszdahlia@yahoo.com
Director of Children's and Family Education
Sue Bojdak (x 302)
- educator@shaarzahav.org
Kadimah Head Teacher,
- Phyllis Mintzer
Administrative Assistant,
Melanie Kushnir (x 304)
- mkushnir@shaarzahav.org
Family Education Specialist,
Jeni Markowitz
- familyeducator@shaarzahav.org

Officers:

President, Lisa Katz
(415/821-7746),
- llkatz1@juno.org or
- president@shaarzahav.org
Vice President, Arthur Slepian
Vice President, Jeffrey Sherman
Treasurer, James Carlson
Recorder, Ray Bernstein

Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)
Ben Bank
Howard Herman
Nancy Kates
Rose Katz
Laura Lowe
Ron Miguel
Drew Parker-Rose
Howard Steiermann
Ami Zusman

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain her or his number from the synagogue office.

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Ron Edelman and Prudence Carter
Archives, open
Baby Havurah, open
Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander
Bikkur Cholim, Avraham Giannini, Eileen Levy, Rachel Maclachlan, Deborah Udin
Book Group, Mark Mackler
Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa and Daphne Stuart
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Children's Education Board, Ruthy Talansky
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Dor Rishon Brotherhood, open
Dues, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers, Lisa Katz, Drew Parker-Rose, Mike Zimmerman
East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk and Larry Wexler
Endowment Fund, Diana Buchbinder
Finance, James Carlson
Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot
Fundraising, Arthur Slepian
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
Israel Havurah, Ron Lezell and Michal Goralsky
La'atid, Geoff Benjamin
Leadership Development, Paul Cohen
Library, Bernard Schertzer
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold
Membership, Marianne Balin
Membership Outreach, Tony Harris
Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign, Ellie Cohen
Newsletter, Karen Schiller
- kschiller@igc.org
Past Presidents Council, David Stein
Personnel, Lyssa Friedman
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky and Marc Wernick
Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold
Ritual, Nicole Bloom
- bloomn@netscape.net
Social Action, AJ Turpen
Singles Havurah, Marc Wernick
- mhwernick@aol.com
Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir
WCGLBJO Liaison, David Gellman
Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose
Women's Havurah, open

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

July Va'ad Minutes

After a closed Executive Session, Rose Katz delivered the d'var Torah on parashat Pinchas, which is about leadership, its development and the orderly transfer of authority. Moshe learns that he will not enter the promised land. Despite his own disappointment, he focuses on the best interests of the community. He makes a full transfer of authority to Joshua, who brings a new vision and is more forward-looking than focused on safety. Rose stated that the lesson for us is that we need to balance active participation and process against letting the leaders lead.

Lea Salem gave the Administrator's Report. We discussed the new "Great Greeter" packet, which contains excellent information about the role of greeter. There is also a draft security packet; comments are welcome.

Miki Goralski introduced a proposal from the Israel Havurah to become an official CSZ committee, so that Israel will be a topic the congregation is more willing to address. A member was concerned about the process of bringing such issues to the Va'ad, noting the diverse views among congregants about Israel. The havurah's proposal envisions that the committee would assist with the integration of Israel into the congregation, through cultural and educational events. We discussed the fact that Israel is a difficult topic for everyone, and it is not desirable to establish consensus on the subject. The proposed committee

could serve as a much-needed forum, not taking any pre-determined stand other than that Israel is important to Jews and to Reform Judaism. The proposed committee would have autonomy to decide its programs, but would be limited as to policy, which would come to the Va'ad or congregation for discussion. The havurah's proposal will be scheduled for further discussion at the August Va'ad meeting, to which people with various viewpoints will be invited.

Rabbi Angel's report expressed gratitude for the Advance. She proposed a Covenant of Leadership, based on the Alban Institute text, for use at the installation service, and we adopted it with modifications.

Lisa Katz gave the President's Report. A motion to adopt team CSZ for the National AIDS Marathon was approved. Diana Buchbinder has agreed to join the Personnel Committee. Ruthy Talansky has agreed to chair the CEB. Both were welcomed unanimously.

James Carlson gave the Treasurer's report. We are in the process of closing the books for the fiscal year ended June 30 and transitioning to a new accounting system and a new software package. There will be forms to help committee chairs monitor their expenses more carefully, and the finance committee will meet with chairs to help increase their involvement in the budget process. James was thanked for his tremendous efforts as we changed accounting systems.

Supporting Education at Sha'ar Zahav

Support comes in many forms – moral, emotional and financial. Our educational programs have grown by leaps and bounds in the past few years, and most of it has been because many people and several organizations have been investing in the education of our children, our families and our adults.

Institutionally, the Bureau of Jewish Education has been supporting our school since it was founded, and in recent years, has helped us expand Kadimah to two days a week, and to start a teen madrichim program. This past year, the Bureau helped us create a family education program.

Thomas Yazman, z"l, a former member of the congregation, bequeathed funds to create the Yazman Scholarship that supports teen programming. One donor has graciously underwritten the Gift of Israel program; another donor has underwritten our tuition subsidies program. Others have continued to donate time and money, from art expertise and singing skills to money for social action programs, to ensure that our educational programs are top-notch.

Congregational support is the key to making sure our educational programs continue to flourish. The staff thanks everyone who is currently supporting our educational programs and encourages everyone to contact the education staff to find out about new ways to support our programs.

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Percentage of all commissions to CSZ

Members' Yahrzeits

- 1 John Golebowski
- 5 Bernard Pechter
- 15 David Pierce
- 18 Penny Dachinger
- 19 Gershon Lieberman
- 22 Frank Hyman
- 25 Jeffrey Lewis Cohen
- 27 Drew Siegel

Why Are These New Members Different From All Others? by Marc Wernick



Kelly Cytron and Judy Hogan have been part of the Shahr Zahav com-

munity long before they joined as members this past July. They first learned about the synagogue in 1991 and felt a close connection to Rabbi Yoel Kahn. When Rabbi Kahn left CSZ, they felt no strong connection to the community.

Recently, however, the Cytron-Hogan family felt that they needed more spirituality in their lives, and they feel a renewed connection to the synagogue, largely due to Rabbi Angel. "I love her style, her sense of humor. She is totally out there for the community. She is wearing all the hats - leader, friend, teacher," Kelly said. Judy and Kelly have noted that a lot has changed at CSZ since the days of Rabbi Kahn; there are a lot more families involved in the CSZ community. Perhaps they are more aware of children because they have a 2½-year-old daughter, Sophie.

Judy, a self-described "recovering Catholic," is supportive of and participating in, Sophie's Jewish education. Kelly and Judy believe that Sophie should have the exposure to Judaism as well as other religions and spiritual beliefs so that Sophie can make her own personal choices based on those experiences. "It is really great for Sophie. Her Jewish religious exposure provides a great link to Kelly's family. Also, an early education in accepting other people and their differences is really important. I have a lot of respect for Judaism, and I want to learn more," Judy explains.

Sophie, who loves music, is already learning the basic prayers - the Kiddush and Motzi (for wine and bread). Kelly comments that Tot Shabbat is great at familiarizing Sophie with Jewish customs and values. "It is such a great space. Last time we went, there were 10-12 parents who were all there for the same reason, to learn Jewish traditions and history with their children through art and music. It was so nice to get to

know the people there," beams Kelly.

As is our custom, we will ask Judy and Kelly four questions to get to know them better.

- *How do you instill a sense of Jewish values in children?*

"Be who you are, and they will pick up on it," explains Judy. Judy and Kelly try to model kindness and giving back to the community. "Sophie knows that I go to deliver meals for Jewish Family and Children Services. And I hope she will figure out her own way to give back and put her energy into the community," adds Kelly. Both Judy and Kelly feel it is important that Sophie have fun with her heritage - learning the basic moral lessons of tzedakah, the richness of the history, the holidays and seasons, and respecting the world around her.

- *How have your views on Judaism changed as a result of having a child?*

Kelly notes that Judaism has become a more integral part of her life with a child around. "It is now my responsibility to share history, culture and morals with Sophie as well as her Jewish lineage," she explains. "I am constantly the role model."

- *With the High Holidays around the corner, our questions turn to sinning and repenting. Which sins are the hardest to repent of?*

Kelly thinks the "sins of who you are" - the character flaws, such as lack of patience, are the things that need the most work. Kelly prefers not to think of "sins" but rather of improvement opportunities, and believes that reflection on those opportunities should not be restricted to one day a year, but given serious thought over the entire year.

- *What can we do to sustain the changes we decide to make during the High Holidays?*

Judy thinks that it is about keeping focused. "With Sophie, it is in the front of my mind. She takes it all in and doesn't miss a beat. We have to set a good example," she explains. Kelly is a bit more pragmatic. "It is about setting goals for what you want to change," she says.

Please make it one of your goals to welcome Kelly, Judy and Sophie, as well as all of our new members to the community.

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Reform Movement Mission to Israel

by Jake Wirschafter and Lea Salem

As tensions have escalated and many in Israeli society are shifting towards the right, the Reform movement is still calling for human rights, social justice, religious freedom and progressive values. On July 30, we joined 170 congregational leaders, rabbis, and communal professionals as part of the Reform Movement Solidarity Mission to Israel.

The Ceremony of Reconnection, at which Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman of Congregation Kol HaNeshamah led the prayer for the peace of Jerusalem, was the emotional start of our five day visit. The mission focused on understanding the changes that have taken in place in Israel over the past 11 months and how local Reform Jews and progressive Israelis are meeting the challenges of an increasingly difficult situation.

Colette Avital, Labor Party member of the Knesset, briefed us on renewed contacts between peace-oriented politicians from Israel and the Palestine Authority who are trying to pick up the pieces from last year's breakdown of talks resulting from the failure of the Camp David Summit. Ms. Avital said her party was committed to steering the government back to the negotiating table with a focus on practical steps to calm the situation before any attempt can be made to tackle the final status issues of borders, refugees and Jerusalem.

In another meeting, Israel Religious Action Center Director Rabbi Uri Regev explained how a series of legal challenges in the civil courts have ex-

posed established Orthodoxy's contempt for the Israeli taxpayer and weakened the rabbinate's attempt to maintain spiritual hegemony and define Judaism in exclusivist ways.

During the course of the trip we also met with the Jerusalem City councillor from the Meretz Party, Anat Hoffman, who, as part of the group "Women of the Wall," continues the struggle to provide a place for Jewish women to voice their prayers while covered in talit at the Western Wall. We studied at the Shalom Hartman Institute with Rabbi David Hartman, who focused on how our texts frame the Jewish people's political choices and challenges. We also had the opportunity to visit the Jerusalem Open House, which provides an amazing number of activities, ranging from serving the needs of Orthodox lesbians to hosting events for the hundreds of young Americans in the capital on Birthright programs.

In Tel Aviv, we heard from the Agudah about how they are initiating efforts to protect gay Palestinians, who are targeted in efforts to eliminate "collaborators" and who are subject to "honor killings" initiated by their own family members. Agudah leaders are asking for Sha'ar Zahav's participation in planning and attending the World Congress of Jewish LGBT Organizations conference there next July.

On our last night in the country, the two of us attended a Peace Now Rally in front of the Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv, where ironically the next morning a gunman opened fire on both soldiers and civilians.

Israel Update

Miki Goralsky and Ron Lezell,

Israel Havurah co-chairs

The following was submitted by the Agudah, the National Association of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders in Israel:

"To find the complexity and paradox of Israel, you needn't have looked any further than Pride week (this past June). Bigger, louder, more colorful than last year, the celebrations included a host of cultural events, parties and high profile meetings with national politicians.

"The Parade itself, officially co-sponsored by the Agudah and the City of Tel Aviv, featured 30,000 marchers from all points in Israel. Among those present was a large contingent of Jews and Palestinians marching together to protest the occupation. They carried signs saying 'there is no pride in occupation.'"

The Agudah is pleased to announce that they will host the 17th World Conference of GLBT Jews, to be held in Israel July 4 - 7, 2002. To coincide with Pride Week in Israel, events and touring are planned to begin June 28 and run through the conference. More information will be available at CSZ's High Holiday services.

As a CSZ member you have received, or will soon receive, a letter from Rabbi Angel and President Lisa Katz, that will encourage you to support our friends in Israel at this very difficult time for our sisters and brothers. Specifically, you'll receive information on how you can support the Agudah by becoming an international member.

You're invited to attend the next meeting of the Israel Havurah on September 25, 6:30 pm at CSZ. At that meeting we'll solidify dates for upcoming Israeli social and cultural programming.

Israel Havurah Wants to Become a Committee

The Israel Havurah has asked to become a committee. The Va'ad will vote on this matter at its next meeting on September 13, 6:30 pm at CSZ. All are welcome.

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- in memory of Ernie Weinstein.
- in memory of Bill Schlichter.
- in memory of Jay Feinstein.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Jeffrey Sherman:

- with prayers for the complete healing of Jeffrey Lilly.

Louisa Stone and Jim Frazin:

- in honor of Rabbi Camille Angel, Geoff Benjamin, Allan Berenstein, Rob Daroff, Mark Freeman, Jeff Friedman, Avraham Giannini, Sara Haber, Rose Katz, Rachel Maclachlan, Sam Thal, Rick Shelton, Beth Sousa, Deborah Udin, Richard Weiner, Marc Wernick, Mike Zimmerman, Ed Blaik, Daphne Stuart and the CSZ staff.

Steve Weiner:

- in honor Paul Cohen's being elected to the Executive Board of the Bureau of Jewish Education.

Children's Education Fund

Diana Buchbinder:

- in honor of CSZ for educating our children.

Daniel Chesir:

- in honor of the birth of Eliana Chalmers Frank.

Alex Ingersoll and David Stein:

- in honor of Eliana Chalmers Frank's coming into the lives of her parents.

Fishman-Kane Family:

- in honor of Clarissa Kripke's and Avraham Giannini's becoming b'nei mitzvah.
- in honor of Howard Steiermann's election to the Board of the Jewish Community Federation.
- in memory of Lottie Shneer.

Education Fund

Trudi and Stephen Hauptman:

- in honor of Greer's graduation from high school and Midrashah.

Steve Weiner:

- in honor of Leslie Kane's position as Executive Director of the Holocaust Center of Northern California.

Anonymous:

- in memory of Dr. Arnold Ritter.

John Arnold:

- in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday.

Keith Barton:

- in honor of his and Steve Rosenberg's 19th anniversary.

Allan Berenstein:

- in memory of Perel Berenstein.

Nicole Bloom:

- in honor of the inspiring learning and teaching of our b'nei mitzvah.

Josh Bottfeld.

James Carlson:

- in honor of the Advance Planning Committee.
- in memory of Jan Tuzzolino.
- in honor of Jeff Sherman's birthday.

James Carlson and Ed Blaik:

- in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday.

Bettie and Martin Cymrot:

- in appreciation of the congregation.

Bob Denebeim:

- in honor of Lea Salem.

Steve Elman:

- in memory of Hy Elman.

Steve Elman and Tom Holt:

- in honor of Avraham Giannini's becoming bar mitzvah.
- in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Freeman Family:

- in memory of David Wexler.

Sydney and Joyce Fishman:

- in memory of John Atteridg.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold:

- in memory of Alan Harap.

Mark Gershman:

- in honor of honor the birth of Eliana Chalmers Frank.

Rebecca Goldfader:

- in honor of Alison Austin's opening up her new law practice office.

General Fund

Joe Hample:

- in honor of the wedding of Mike Bromberg and Ken Repp.
- in honor of all the recent b'nei mitzvah.

Dvorah Honigstein:

- in memory of Miriam Honigstein.

Alex Ingersoll and David Stein:

- in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Arnie Jackson:

- in memory of Toby Jackson.

Jean and Norm Katz:

- in honor of Lisa Katz's becoming President of CSZ.

Ned and Karen Kripke:

- in honor of Clarissa Kripke's becoming bat mitzvah.

Ida Kuluk:

- in memory of Andrea Goldberg.

Valerie Kuskulis:

- in memory of Ed Richmond.

Rod Leslie:

- in gratitude to Rabbi Angel, Paul Cohen and Rabbi Eric Weiss.

Abby Levine:

- in memory of Elizabeth Levine.

Bea Lieberman:

- in memory of Rose Levin and Gershon and Estelle Lieberman.

Marc Lipschutz:

- in honor of Lisa Katz for the wonderful work she will initiate and complete as President of CSZ.
- in honor of David Gellman for his work while CSZ President.

Larry McClaskey:

- in honor of Rabbi Angel and Paul Cohen.

Mark Mackler:

- in honor of the anniversary of Jonathan Funk and John Arnold.
- in honor of Jonathan Schwartz and Patrick Margolit.

Steve Marshall:

- in honor of Clarissa Kripke's becoming bat mitzvah.

Nancy Meyer:

- in memory of Nelly Levy Meyer.

Ron and Ruth Miguel:

- in memory of Fay Averich.
- in honor of the adoption of Summer Miguel-Strah by Barry Miguel and David Strah.

Lisa Ochs and Lea Salem:

- in memory of David Wexler.
- in honor of the birth of Sophia Rose Katz.

Irene Ogus:

- in honor of Jeffrey Davidson.

Jeff Piade:

- in memory of David Wexler.

Ellen Berger Quan.

Liz Schaffer:

- in memory of Stanton Schaffer.

Jeffrey Sherman:

- in honor of Clarissa Kripke's, Avraham Giannini's, Prudence Carter's and Bruce Kapsack's becoming b'nei mitzvah.
- in memory of Kim Carlson.

Michele Sullivan:

- in memory of Leon LeMeteyer.

Neil and Marlee Taxy:

- in memory of Bernard Pechter.

Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu:

- in honor of Susan Unger and Pam Erwin.

Steve Weiner:

- in honor of Sharyn Saslasky's new position as Director of Marketing and Communications for the San Francisco Jewish Community Center.
- in honor of Howard Steiermann's being elected to the Board of the Jewish Community Federation.
- in honor of David Stein's new position as Executive Director at Congregation Beth Israel-Judea.

Eli Weinstein:

- in memory of David Wexler.

Ami Zusman:

- in memory of David Wexler.
- in honor of the wedding of Mike Bromberg and Ken Repp.

Join the Newsletter Committee

Contact

Karen Schiller at

kschiller@igc.org

to find out how!

Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

Allan Berenstein:

- in honor of Alex Davido.
- in memory of David Wexler.

Arthur Cohen:

- in celebration of the marriage of Rhoda and Kalman Goldstein.
- in memory of Harold Little.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold:

- in honor of David Stein's new position at Beth Israel-Judea.
- in honor of Sharyn Saslasky's new position at the SFJCC.
- in honor of Eileen Levy's being named Director of the School of Social Work at SFSU.

Contributions

Library Fund

Neil Hart:
- in memory of Sara Feldman.

Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund

Ed Blaik:
- in memory of Gerard Chevalaz.
- in honor of James Carlson for four wonderful months.

Jonathan Funk:
- in honor of Rabbi Angel's mother, Shelma Angel.

Liz Goodman and Ellen Lewin:
- in memory of Beatrice Sheinman.

Judy Macks:
- with appreciation to Rabbi Angel and CSZ for all the prayers and support.

Susan Weiss:
- in honor of Randy Weiss and Craig Shear.

Social Action Fund

Walter Leiss:
- in memory of Agnes Berenstein Schwartz.

Contributions in honor of the 10th anniversary of Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart.

Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert.
Mark Lipschutz.
Patricia Lin.

Anita C. Carr.
Alex Ingersoll and David Stein.
Ami Zusman.
Florence and Steve Nacamulli.

James Carlson.
Jeri Lynn Cohen.
Ora Prochovnick and Rena Frantz.

Contributions in honor of the 25th anniversary of Marc Wernick's bar mitzvah.

Adele and David Rosen.
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll.
Lisa Ochs and Lea Salem.
Rod Leslie.
Mark Mackler.

Ora Prochovnick.
Robert K. Tat.
James Carlson.
Jeff Sherman.
Mark Lipschutz.

Susan Nassberg.
Beth Lebow.
Eli Weinstein.
Ami Zusman.
Allan Berenstein.

Contributions in honor of Laura Lowe's becoming bat mitzvah

Mark Gershman.
Bill and Addie Pintchuk.
Natalie and Harold Fried.
Diana Buchbinder.

Katie Lorber-Christie.
Alex Ingersoll and David Stein.
Steve Elman and Tom Holt.
Alvin H. Baum, Jr.

Sandra Blair.
Ron Lezell.
B. Scott Levine.
Barbara Rovins.

Contributions in memory of Barry Siegel

Bob and Carol Tessler.
Eli Weinstein.
Christine and Stanley Mattison.
David A. Banton, III.
Anonymous.

Elizabeth and Jonathan Landers.
Barbara and Ronald Kaufman.
Ron Lezell.
Walter Leiss.

Sam Thal.
Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs.
Nion T. McEvoy.
Mrs. Barbro Sachs-Osher.
Allan Berenstein.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

- Joe Ramirez-Forcier
- Tamira Elul, Dean Goldfein and Dara Goldfein
- Nancy Windesheim and Eric Zigas, Lisa and Parker Windesheim-Zigas
- Anita Silver
- Eve Cohen and Richard Stanley
- Craig Persiko and Geoff Benjamin (welcome back!)
- Naomi Szoke and Red Bennett
- Kelly Cytron and Judy Hogan, Sophie Hogan-Cytron
- Mark Chalfant
- Felicia Park-Rogers and Rachel Timoner
- Amy Cunninghis and Karen Golinski

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Condolences

Claudia Bernard on the death of her aunt, Betty Boltuch.

Arthur Slepian on the death of his uncle, Harold Slepian.

Larry Wexler on the death of his father, David Wexler.

Darah Wallsten on the death of her grandmother, Gladys Koyen-Murphy.

Richard Allman on the death of his friend, David Macy.

Greta Miskatel on the death of her aunt, Sofula Modiano.

Anita Silver on the death of her friend, Moses Feuerman.

Neal Hart on the death of his mother, Peggy Hart.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact the synagogue office.

Sept. Anniversaries

- 1 Jeffrey Rubin and Frank Bush
- 4 Alan Michels and Laureen Kim
Deborah Udin and Lucy Cefalu
- 13 Sara and Devra Felder Noily
- 18 Julie Dorf and Jenni Olson
- 30 Susan Unger and Pam Erwin

Earnings Devoted to Philanthropy

SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL CHEVRA KADISHA

San Francisco 1501 Divisadero St. (415) 921-3636
Marin (415) 472-3636
Peninsula (650) 212-3636
Lafayette (925) 284-3945

GENE B. KAUFMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Naches

To **Anna and Josh Katz** on the birth of their daughter, Sophia Rose Katz.

To **Rachel and Reed Pruyn Goldstein** on the birth of their son, Micah Aiden Pruyn Goldstein.

To **Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz** on becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

To **Marc Wernick** on the 25th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

To **Mike Bromberg and Ken Repp** on their wedding.

To **Ali Cannon and Jessica Israel** on their wedding.

To **Michael Schwartz** on receiving his Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) from the Wright Institute and for receiving a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Rehabilitation Medicine and Clinical Neuropsychology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. (We'll miss you!)

To **Jeff Rubin and Frank Bush** on their 20th anniversary.

To **Jonathan Funk and John Arnold** on their 17th anniversary.

To **Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart** on their 10th anniversary.

To **Patricia Lin** on her new job as a Research Associate at the Institute of Jewish and Community Research in San Francisco.

To **Ron and Ruth Miguel** on their new granddaughter, Summer Miguel-Strah.

To **Deborah Udin** on being made a partner in Zephyr Real Estate.

To **Tamira Elul and Dean Goldfein** on the birth of their daughter, Dara Esther Goldfein.

To **Bob Katz** on successfully biking from San Francisco to Los Angeles as part of the AIDS ride.

To **Donald Abrams** on being featured in the cover article of the August 12 issue of San Francisco Chronicle Magazine for his invaluable work on the battle with AIDS and as co-director of the Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research.

Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat and/or flowers in recent weeks:

5/26 Flowers by **Mike Rankin** in honor of the Adult B'nei Mitzvah class.

6/29 Oneg and Flowers by **Mike Bromberg and Ken Repp** in celebration of their wedding.

6/30 Flowers by **Ron Edelman** in memory of Abby Edelman.

7/1 Oneg by **Jonathan Funk and John Arnold** in honor of their 17th anniversary.

7/13 Home-baked Oneg by **friends of Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart** in celebration of their 10th anniversary.

Flowers by **Mark Chalfant** in loving memory of his father, Reverend Canon Allan R. Chalfant.

7/14 Oneg and oneg room flowers by **family of Marc Wernick** in honor of the 25th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

Bimah flowers by **Allan Berenstein and Sharyn Saslafsky** in honor of Marc Wernick chanting Torah and the 25th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

7/20 Oneg by **Jeff Rubin and Frank Bush** in honor of their 20th anniversary.

8/3 Oneg by **Dan Halpern** in memory of his daughter, Sara Halpern.

Flowers by **Ed Blaik** in memory of Gerard Chevalaz.

8/10 Oneg by **Carol Barnett** and flowers by **Lisa Nahmanson and Sandra Steelein** honor of Ali Cannon and Jessica Israel's aufruf and wedding.

8/17 Oneg by **James Carlson and Ed Blaik** in honor of Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart's co-leading services.

8/24 Flowers by **the Feinstein-Shor family** in honor of Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz's Bar Mitzvah.

8/25 Oneg by **Miriam Garfinkle and Julie Frank** in honor of Josh Shuster-Lefkowitz's Bar Mitzvah.

September

1 K. Smokey Cormier
Liz Goodman
Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli
Alison Moed

2 Harry Bernholz
Magaret Crow Rosenfeld
Kelly Cytron
Jeff Friedman

3 Nancy Halloran

6 Cynthia Navarro

7 Alvin H. Baum, Jr.
Richard Brand

8 Mindy Bokser
Ray Feinstein Cagan
Barbara Leff
Ellen Press

9 Rachel Field
Suzanne London
Edward Lopatin

10 Valerie Curtis
Sandy O'Neill

11 Lele Field
Lawrence Helman

12 Nicole Bloom

13 Paul Margolis
Eva Rosenbaum
David Thompson

14 Sion Isaacs

15 Mark Oliver

17 Reed Pruyn Goldstein

19 Rebecca Goldfader
Lisa Hamburger
Robert Tat

20 Elizabeth Katz
Mark Klaiman
Rachel Timoner

22 Raena Frohlich
Roslyn Fuerman

23 Marianne Ades

24 Mark Leno

26 Jeffrey Forman
Sophie Rinkoff-Murland

28 Arthur Cohen
Jim Frazin
Daphne Stuart

29 Simon Glinksy
Frances Newman
Judith Wolfe

30 Lisa Ochs
Eric Zigas